

GOD SAVE THE VID

the english are good at this
but their artists live in bright yellow
rooms called flats and their women
have tiny chins and brown hair

the real english are irish
and the real irish went to america
in '48 and got caught in the civil war
and were buried in the wrong grave

dont you know. tv taught us that,
and that the french artists are
artistes, live in towns built
like joan of arc movie sets, where

someone next door plays the violer
all day, and theres a skylight to
paint by. there aren't any spanish
artists, except picasso, who makes

his children piss on the statues for
patina and anyway is dead.
tv told me that, in its 7th hour
boldness, satellite report and all.

the americans inherited
the self-made man, and invented
all the rest; they invented
me, the fordor and the sex crime.

the norse invented tragedy, in
the guise of peace, and gave it to
the irish. some of the race
were not as lucky as intended.

they kept being, through centuries
until they ended up being me.
i watch the vid, and when
someone irish by satellite

dies of a rubber bullet, i laugh.
my cousins are in Long Kesh, art
is dead, and when something
beautiful is on the vid i cry.

-- Michael Ward

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